

SYSTEMATIC LIST  
OF  
TASMANIAN BIRDS:

BY  
COL. W. V. LEGGE, R.A., F.Z.S., &c.

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NOTE.—In the following Systematic List, the Birds of Tasmania are divided into 12 Orders. The object has been to supply workers in Ornithology with an idea as to the proper classification of our birds, prior to the issue of a systematic catalogue, which it is hoped will be published next year. By the term “proper” must be understood a classification that will group together such families as are manifestly allied to one another, and place them in that sequence which is the natural outcome of the affinities of the genera of one family with those of another. There are, it is true, gaps to be found in most of the great recognised Orders which are difficult to bridge over; but, as a rule, members of one family (or sub-family) are found, by reason of their anatomy or their habits, to grade into one another in such a manner as to enable the systematist to group them in a natural sequence.

So long as the world lasts there will be differences of opinion as to the right classification of birds; and therefore the best course to be followed by the systematic student of the avifauna of a small “region” like that of Tasmania is to adopt such a system as will work easily, provided the claims of anatomy and external structure, combined with the affinities demonstrated by habit, are not ignored.

The system followed in this List is that adopted in the Birds of Ceylon, with some slight modifications. The *Accipitres* (Hawks) are placed first, and the Hawks are followed by the *Psittaci* (Parrots) with their similarly hooked

bill and fleshy cere at the base of the upper mandible. After these follow the *Picarian* birds, with a double notch in the posterior margin of the sternum or breast-bone : and the separation of the birds of this group from the great *Passerine* Order, together with the subdivision of the latter into the Sections proposed by Wallace, based on wing-structure, constitute the chief differences from the classification in Gould's works, with which Tasmanian students will no doubt be familiar. After the *Columbæ* (Pigeons) and *Gallinæ* (Scratchers or Game Birds) come the Coots and Water-hens, &c., which I have kept distinct, as the Order *Fulicariæ*, from the *Grallæ* (Shore-birds). This order, recognised by some naturalists and not by others, I take to be a good one, inasmuch as the Coots are entirely distinct from the shore-birds in their habits and eggs, although their young are like those of the latter Order *Autophagous*. The Petrels are placed with the Gulls and Terns in one Order, *Gaviæ*, and not separated as *Tubinares*, although it must be admitted that the nidification and eggs of the Petrels are very distinct from those of the Gulls. In their oceanic habits, however, they grade into the the Terns somewhat, through the "Noddies."

There has been an unnecessary separation of genera in many families of Australian birds. There is nothing more perplexing to the young student than this, and I have, in cases where there are no differences of external structure, discarded many such genera. It has been found necessary, however, to separate the so-called *Great Acanthiza* as a new genus *Acanthornis*, which will appear in a paper on Tasmanian Birds in *The Ibis* for 1887.

The specific names are in some cases different from those in Gould, owing to the researches of modern authors having resulted in tracing out older (and consequently more correct) names than those employed by that naturalist. The new title given to the Scarlet-breasted Robin by Mr. Sharpe in his 4th volume of the Catalogue of Birds is owing to the specific name, *Multicolor*, having been originally applied by Gmelin to the Norfolk Island Robin, and therefore a new name had to be found for and bestowed on the Australian and Tasmanian bird. *Geocichla macrorhyncha*, I am inclined to think, is a doubtful species ; It can only rank in any case as a sub-species, if it be distinct from *G. lunulata*, the Australian Thrush. With the paucity of data which exists concerning the Petrels, I have not thought it advisable to subdivide this neglected family at present. I have likewise thought it better to keep the blue and white Reef Herons as one species.

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Order **ACCIPITRES.**Suborder **Falcones.**

## Family FALCONIDÆ—(11 species).

Subfam. ACCIPITRINÆ.	{	Circus approximans, <i>Bonap.</i>	Allied Harrier (Swamp-hawk).
		Circus assimilis, <i>Jard. &amp; Selby.</i>	Jardines Harrier.
		Astur Novæ Hollandiæ, <i>Gmelin.</i>	White Goshawk.
		Astur approximans, <i>Vigors &amp; Horsf.</i>	Australian Goshawk.
	{	Accipiter cirrhocephalus, <i>Vieillot.</i>	Sparrow-hawk.
Subfam. AQUILINÆ.	{	Uroæetus audax, <i>Latham.</i>	Wedge-tailed Eagle.
		Haliaetus leucogaster, <i>Gmelin.</i>	Grey-backed Sea Eagle.
Subfam. FALCONINÆ.	{	Falco melanogenys, <i>Gould.</i>	Black-cheeked Falcon.
		Falco lunulatus, <i>Latham.</i>	Australian Hobby.
		Hieracidea Orientalis, <i>Schlegel.</i>	Brown Hawk.
		Cerchneis cenchroides, <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf.</i>	Australian Kestrel.

Suborder **Pandiones.**

Pandion leucocephalus, *Gould.* Australian Osprey.

Suborder **Striges.**

## Family BUBONIDÆ—(2 species).

Subfam. BUBONINÆ.	{	Ninox boobook, <i>Latham.</i>	Brown Hawk-owl.
		Ninox maculata, <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf.</i>	Spotted Hawk-owl.

## Family STRIGIDÆ—(1 species).

Strix castanops, *Gould.* Tasmanian Barn-owl.

Order **PSITTACI.**

## Family PSITTACIDÆ—(8 species).

Subfam. CAMPTOLOPHINÆ.	{	Ptiloropus galeritus, <i>Latham.</i>	White Cockatoo.
		Calyptrorhynchus xanthonotus, <i>Gould.</i>	Black Cockatoo.
		Callocephalon galeatum, <i>Latham.</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo.

Subfam. PLATYCERCINÆ.	{	Platycercus flaviventris, <i>Temminck</i> .	Yellow-bellied Parrakeet.
		Platycercus eximius, <i>Shaw</i> .	Rosehill Parrakeet.
		Euphema venusta, <i>Temminck</i> .	Blue-banded Grass Parrakeet.
		Euphema chrysogastra, <i>Latham</i> .	Orange-bellied Grass Parrakeet.
		Pezoporus formosus, <i>Latham</i> .	Ground Parrakeet.

## Family TRICHOGLOSSIDÆ—(4 species).

Subfam. TRICHOGLOSSINÆ.	{	Lathamus discolor, <i>Shaw</i> .	Swift Lorikeet.
		Trichoglossus, <i>Novæ Hollandæ</i> , <i>Gmelin</i> .	Blue-bellied Lorikeet.
		Trichoglossus concinnus, <i>Shaw</i> .	Musk Lorikeet.
		Trichoglossus pusillus, <i>Shaw</i> .	Little Lorikeet.

Order **PICARIÆ.**

## Family CUCULIDÆ—(5 species).

Subfam. CUCULINÆ.	{	Cuculus pallidus, <i>Latham</i> .	Pallid Cuckoo.
		Cuculus flabelliformis, <i>Latham</i> .	Fantailed Cuckoo.
		Cuculus plagosus, <i>Lath</i> .	Bronze Cuckoo.
		Cuculus basalis, <i>Horsfield</i> .	Narrow-billed Bronze Cuckoo.
Subfam. PHÆNICOPHAINÆ.	}	Scythrops <i>Novæ Hollandiæ</i> , <i>Lath</i> .	Channel-bill Cuckoo.

## Family ALCEDINIDÆ—(2 species).

Subfam. HALCYONINÆ.	}	Halcyon sanctus, <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf</i> .	Sacred Kingfisher.
Subfam. ALCEDININÆ.	}	Alcyone <i>Diemenensis</i> , <i>Gould</i> .	Tasmanian Kingfisher.

## Family CYPSELIDÆ—(1 species).

Acanthyllis caudacuta, <i>Lath</i> .	Spine-tailed Swift.
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## Family CAPRIMULGIDÆ—(2 species).

Subfam. STEATORNINÆ.	}	Podargus <i>Cuvieri</i> , <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf</i> .	More-pork.
Subfam. CAPRIMULGINÆ.	}	Ægotheles <i>Novæ Hollandiæ</i> , <i>Lath</i> .	Crested Night Jar.

Order **PASSERES.**Section A. **Thrush-like Passeres.**

(10 primaries, 1st small.)

Family CORVIDÆ—(4 species).

Subfam. CORVINÆ.	{	Corvus coronoides, <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf.</i>	Australian Raven.
		Corone Australis, <i>Gould.</i>	White-eyed Crow.
		Strepera fuliginosa, <i>Gould.</i>	Black Magpie.
		Strepera arguta, <i>Gould.</i>	Hill Magpie.

Family CAMPOPHAGIDÆ—(1 species).

Graucalus parvirostris, *Gould.* Summer-bird.

Family PRIONOPIDÆ—(1 species).

Collyriocincla rectirostris, *Jard. & Selby.* Whistling Shrike-Thrush.

Family LANIIDÆ—(5 species).

Subfam. GYMNORHININÆ.	{	Gymnorhina hyperleuca, <i>Gould.</i>	Magpie.
		Cracticus cinereus, <i>Gould.</i>	Butcher-bird (Jack-ass.)
Subfam. PACHYCEPHALINÆ.	{	Pachycephala olivacea, <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf.</i>	Olivaceous Thick-head.
		Pachycephala gutturalis, <i>Lath.</i>	Yellow-breasted Thickhead.
		Pachycephala glaucura, <i>Gould.</i>	Grey-tailed Thick-head.

Family MUSCICAPIDÆ—(8 species).

Subfam. MUSCICAPINÆ.	{	Rhipidura saturata, <i>Sharpe.</i>	Tasmanian Fantail.
		Myiagra rubecula, <i>Lath.</i>	Leaden Flycatcher.
		Myiagra nitida, <i>Gould.</i>	Shining Flycatcher.
Subfam. SAXICOLINÆ.	{	*Petraea Leggii, <i>Sharpe.</i>	Scarlet-breasted Robin.
		Petraea Phoenicea, <i>Gould.</i>	Flame-breasted Robin.
		Petraea Rhodinogaster, <i>Drapier.</i>	Pink-breasted Robin.
		Petraea vittata, <i>Quoy et Gaimard.</i>	Dusky Robin.
		Malurus Gouldi, <i>Sharpe.</i>	Long-tailed Warbler (Blue Wren).

\* See NOTE.

## Family TURDIDÆ—(3 species).

Subfam. TURDINÆ.	} <i>Geocichla macrorhyncha</i> , <i>Gould.</i>	Ground Thrush.
Subfam. SYLVIINÆ.	} <i>Acrocephalus Australis</i> , <i>Gould.</i>	Reed Warbler.
Subfam. EPHTHIANURINÆ.	{ <i>Ephthianura albifrons</i> , <i>Jard. &amp; Selby.</i>	White-fronted Chat.

## Family TIMELIIDÆ—(8 species).

Subfam. CRATERPODINÆ.	} <i>Cinclosoma punctatum</i> , <i>Lath.</i>	The Ground Bird (Ground Dove).
Subfam. TIMALIINÆ.	} <i>Calamanthus fuliginosus</i> , <i>Vig. &amp; Horsf.</i>	Rush Warbler.
Subfam. BRACHPYTERINÆ.	{ <i>Megalurus gramineus</i> , <i>Gould.</i> <i>Stipiturus malachurus</i> , <i>Shaw.</i>	Grass Bird. Emu Wren.
Subfam. ACANTHIZINÆ.	{ <i>Sericornis humilis</i> , <i>Gould.</i> * <i>Acanthornis magna</i> , <i>Gould.</i> <i>Acanthiza Diemenensis</i> , <i>Gould.</i> <i>Acanthiza chrysorrhœa</i> , <i>Q. &amp; G.</i>	Sombre Bush Tit. White-breasted Bush Tit. Brown Tail. Yellow Tail.

## Family MELIPHAGIDÆ—(10 species).

Subfam. MELIPHAGINÆ.	}	<i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i> , <i>Lath.</i>	Spine Bill.
		<i>Melithreptus validirostris</i> , <i>Gould.</i>	Strong-billed Honey-eater.
		<i>Melithreptus melanocephalus</i> , <i>Gould.</i>	Black-headed Honey-eater.
		<i>Glycyphila fulvifrons</i> , <i>Lewin.</i>	Fulvous-fronted Honey-eater.
		<i>Ptilotis flavigula</i> , <i>Gould.</i>	Yellow-throated Honey-eater.
		<i>Meliornis Novæ Hollandiæ</i> , <i>Lath.</i>	New Holland Honey-eater.
		<i>Meliornis Australasiana</i> , <i>Shaw.</i>	Tasmanian Honey-eater.
		<i>Manorhina garrula</i> , <i>Lath.</i>	Garrulous Honey-eater (Miner).
		<i>Acanthochæra inauris</i> , <i>Gould.</i>	Wattle-bird.
		<i>Acanthochæra mellivora</i> , <i>Lath.</i>	Brush Wattle-bird.

\* See NOTE.

## Section B.

**Swallow-like Passeres.**(9 *Primaries*).

Family ZOSTEROPIDÆ—(1 species).

Zosterops cærulescens, *Lath.* White-eye.

Family DICÆIDÆ—(3 species).

Pardalotus punctatus, *Shaw and Nodder.* Diamond Bird.Pardalotus affinis, *Gould.* Allied Diamond Bird.Pardalotus quadragintus, *Gould.* Forty-spotted Diamond Bird.

Family HIRUNDINIDÆ—(2 species).

Subfam. HIRUNDININÆ.	{	Hirundo neoxena, <i>Gould.</i>	Australian Swallow.
		Petrochelidon nigricans, <i>Vieill.</i>	Tree Swallow.

Family FRINGILLIDÆ.

Subfam. FRINGILLINÆ.	{	Estrela bella, <i>Lath.</i>	Fire-tailed Finch.
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Family MOTACILLIDÆ—(1 species).

Anthus Australis, *Vig. & Horsf.* Australian Pipit.

## Section B.

**Starling-like Passeres.**(10 *Primaries*, 1st rudimentary.)

Family ARTAMIDÆ—(1 species).

Artamus sordidus, *Lath.* Wood Swallow.Order **COLUMBÆ.**

Family GOURIDÆ—(2 species).

Phaps calcoptera, <i>Latham.</i>	Bronze-wing.
Phaps elegans, <i>Temminck.</i>	Brush Bronze-wing.

Family TRERONIDÆ—(2 species).

Lamprotreron superbus, <i>Temm.</i>	Superb Fruit Pigeon.
Lopholaimus antarcticus, <i>Shaw.</i>	Topknot Pigeon.

Order **GALLINÆ.**

Family TETRAONIDÆ—(3 species).

Coturnix pectoralis, <i>Gould.</i>	Stubble Quail.
Synöicus Diemenensis, <i>Gould.</i>	Swamp Quail.
Synöicus Australis, <i>Latham.</i>	Brown Quail.

Family TURNICIDÆ—(1 species).

Turnix varius, <i>Latham.</i>	Painted Quail.
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Order **FULICARIÆ.**

Family RALLIDÆ—(8 species).

Porphyrio cyanocephalus, <i>Vieillot.</i>	Blue Coat.
Tribonyx Gouldi, <i>Sclater.</i>	Native Hen.
Fulica Australis, <i>Gould.</i>	Australian Coot.
Hypotœnidia pectoralis, <i>Cuvier.</i>	Pectoral Rail.
Hypotœnidia brachypus, <i>Swainson.</i>	Short-toed Rail.
Porzana fluminea, <i>Gould.</i>	Spotted Crake.
Porzana palustris, <i>Gould.</i>	Little Crake.
Porzana tabuensis, <i>Gmelin.</i>	Red-backed Crake.

Order **GRALLÆ.**

Family SCOLOPACIDÆ—(9 species).

Gallinago Australis, <i>Latham.</i>	Australian Snipe.
Limosa uropygialis, <i>Gould.</i>	Barred-rumped Godwit.
Tringa subarquata, <i>Güldenot.</i>	Curlew Stint.
Tringa acuminata, <i>Horsf.</i>	Marsh Stint.
Tringa ruficollis, <i>Pallas.</i>	Red-breasted Stint.
Strepsilas interpres, <i>Linn.</i>	The Turnstone.
Numenius cyanopus, <i>Vieillot.</i>	Australian Curlew.
Numenius Phæopus, <i>Linn.</i>	The Whimbrel.

Family CHARADRIIDÆ—(10 species).

Subfam. HIMANTOPODINÆ.	{	Himantopus leucocephalus, <i>Gould.</i>	Australian Stilt.
		Himantopus pectoralis, <i>Dubus.</i>	Banded Stilt.
		Recurvirostra rubricollis, <i>Temm.</i>	Red-necked Avocet.
Subfam. CHARADRIINÆ.	{	Squatarola Helvetica, <i>Linn.</i>	Grey Plover.
		Charadrius fulvus, <i>Gmelin.</i>	Golden Plover.
		Ægialitis bicincta, <i>Jard. &amp; Selby.</i>	Double-banded Sand Plover.
		Ægialitis monacha, <i>Geoffroy.</i>	Hooded Sand Plover
		Ægialitis ruficapilla, <i>Temm.</i>	Red-capped Sand Plover.



Subfam. VANELLINÆ.	{ Lobivanellus lobatus, <i>Latham</i> . Sarciophorus pectoralis, <i>Wagler</i> .	Wattled Plover. Black-breasted Plover.
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## Family HÆMATOPODIDÆ—2 species.

Hæmatopus longirostris, <i>Vieill</i> .	White-breasted Oyster Catcher.
Hæmatopus unicolor, <i>Wagler</i> .	Sooty Oyster Catcher.

Order **GAVIÆ.**

## Family LARIDÆ—(8 species).

Subfam. STERNINÆ.	{ Sterna caspia, <i>Pallas</i> . Sterna poliocerca, <i>Gould</i> . Sterna frontalis, <i>Gray</i> . Sterna nereis, <i>Gould</i> .	Caspian Tern. Bass's Straits Tern. Black-billed Tern. Australian Little Tern.
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Subfam. LARINÆ.	{ Larus pacificus, <i>Latham</i> . Larus Novæ Hollandæ, <i>Stephens</i> .	Pacific Gull. Little Gull.
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Subfam. STERCORARIINÆ.	{ Stercorarius Antarcticus, <i>Lesson</i> . Stercorarius crepidatus, <i>Gmelin</i> .	Antarctic Skua. Richardson's Skua.
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## Family PROCELLARIIDÆ—(28 species).

Diomedea exulans, <i>Linn</i> .	Wandering Albatross.
Diomedea cauta, <i>Gould</i> .	Shy Albatross.
Diomedea culminata, <i>Gould</i> .	Broad-billed Albatross.
Diomedea chlororhyncha, <i>Lath</i> .	Green-billed Albatross.
Diomedea melanophrys, <i>Temm</i> .	Black-eyebrowed Albatross.
Diomedea fuliginosa, <i>Gmelin</i> .	Sooty Albatross.
Ossifraga gigantea, <i>Gmelin</i> .	Giant Petrel.
Majaqueus equinoctialis, <i>Linn</i> .	Spectacled Petrel.
Adamastor cinereus, <i>Gmelin</i> .	Great Grey Petrel.
Pterodroma macroptera, <i>Smith</i> .	Long-winged Petrel.
Pterodroma atlantica, <i>Gould</i> .	Atlantic Petrel.
Pterodroma Solandri, <i>Gould</i> .	Solander's Petrel.
Œstrelata Lessoni, <i>Garn</i> .	White-headed Petrel.
Œstrelata leucoptera, <i>Gould</i> .	White-winged Petrel.
Halobœna cœrulea, <i>Gmelin</i> .	Blue Petrel.
Puffinus brevicaudus, <i>Brandt</i> .	Short-tailed Petrel.
Fulmarus glacialis, <i>Smith</i> .	Silver-grey Petrel.
Daption capensis, <i>Linn</i> .	Cape Pigeon.

Prion turtur, <i>Banks.</i>	Dove-like Prion.
Prion ariel, <i>Gould.</i>	Fairy Prion.
Prion Banksi, <i>Smith.</i>	Banks' Prion.
Prion vittatus, <i>Illiger.</i>	Broad-billed Prion.
Procellaria nercis, <i>Gould.</i>	Grey-backed Storm Petrel.
Procellaria melanogastra, <i>Gould.</i>	Black-bellied Storm Petrel.
Procellaria grallaria, <i>Vieill.</i>	White-bellied Storm Petrel.
• Procellaria fregata, <i>Linn.</i>	White-faced Storm Petrel.
Oceanites oceanica, <i>Kuhl.</i>	Yellow-footed Storm Petrel.
Halodroma urinatrix, <i>Lath.</i>	Diving Petrel.

### Order **STEGANOPODES.**

#### Family PELECANIDÆ—(5 species).

Sula serrator, <i>Banks.</i>	Australian Gannet.
Phalacrocorax carbo, <i>Linn.</i>	Common Cormorant.
Phalacrocorax leucogaster, <i>Gould.</i>	White-breasted Cormorant.
Phalacrocorax melanoleucos, <i>Vieill.</i>	Little Cormorant.
Pelecanus conspicillatus, <i>Temm.</i>	Australian Pelican.

### Order **ANSERES.**

#### Family ANATIDÆ—(12 species).

Subfam. <b>CYGNINÆ.</b>	{ Cygnus atratus, <i>Lath.</i>	Black Swan.
Subfam. <b>ANSERINÆ.</b>	{ Cereopsis Novæ Hollandiæ, <i>Lath.</i>	Cape Barren Goose.
	{ Bernida jubata, <i>Lath.</i>	Maned Goose.
	{ Dendrocycna Eytoni, <i>Gould.</i>	Eyton's Tree Duck.
	{ Tadorna tadornoides, <i>Jard. &amp; Selby.</i>	Ruddy Sheldrake.
Subfam. <b>ANATINÆ.</b>	{ Stictonetta nevousa, <i>Gould.</i>	Freckled Duck.
	{ Anas superciliosa, <i>Gmelin.</i>	Wild Duck.
	{ Anas castanea, <i>Eyton.</i>	Chestnut-breasted Duck.
	{ Spatula rhynchotis, <i>Lath.</i>	Australian Shoveller.
	{ Malacorhynchus membranaceus, <i>Swains.</i>	Membranaceous Duck.

\* Added 1886 by Mr. E. Atkinson, to our list.

Subfam. FULIGULINÆ.	} Fuligula Australis, <i>Gould.</i>	White-eyed Duck.
Subfam. ERISMATURINÆ.	} Biziura lobata, <i>Shaw.</i>	Musk Duck.

Order **HERODIONES.**

Family ARDEIDÆ—(5 species).

Ardea Pacifica, <i>Lath.</i>	Pacific Heron.
Ardea Novæ Hollandæ, <i>Lath.</i>	White-fronted Heron.
*Ardea sacra, <i>Gmelin.</i>	The Reef Heron.
Herodias alba, <i>Linn.</i>	White Egret.
Nycticorax Caledonicus, <i>Lath.</i>	Australian Night Heron.
Botaurus poicilopterus, <i>Wagler.</i>	Australian Bittern.

Order **PYGOPODES.**

Family PODICIPIDÆ—(3 species).

Podiceps Australis, <i>Gould.</i>	Australian Grebe.
Podiceps Nestor, <i>Gould.</i>	Hoary-headed Grebe.
Podiceps Novæ Hollandiæ.	Australian Little Grebe.

Order **IMPENNES.**

Family SPHENISCIDÆ—(3 species).

Catarractes chrysocome, <i>Lath.</i>	Crested Penguin.
Eudyptula minor, <i>Forster.</i>	Little Penguin.
Eudyptula undina, <i>Gould.</i>	Fairy Penguin.

\* See NOTE.